

# New Community College Transfer Students at California's Public Universities

A CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION FACT SHEET

## Trends in new transfer enrollments

The opportunity for California students to begin their postsecondary education at a community college and transfer to a public university to complete their baccalaureate degree is a major cornerstone of California's Master Plan for Higher Education. Over the past four decades, many hundreds of thousands of students have taken advantage of this opportunity. This fact sheet examines recent trends in community college transfer enrollments at the State's public universities.

Historically, about four times as many community college students transfer to the State University each year as enroll at the University of California. In 1992-93, the number of new community college transfer students who enrolled at the State University hit a low point of only 40,980. Since then, these enrollments have grown 18 percent. However, the enroll-

ment of new transfers in 1996-97 decreased from the prior year. Similarly, at the University of California, new community college transfer students have increased by five percent over five years ago but the current-year enrollment of these students is slightly below the prior year's level.

Through 1995-96, the enrollments of community college transfer students from all racial-ethnic groups increased, except for White students. However, in 1996-97, the number of new Black and Native American community college transfer students, as well as White students, enrolling at the State University decreased. Students from all racial-ethnic groups except Asian transfer students contributed to the decline in new community college transfer students enrolling at the University of California in 1996-97.

Fewer applicants, particularly White students, sought to transfer from the community colleges to the State

*DISPLAY 1 New Community College Transfer Students at the State's Public Universities, by Racial/Ethnic Groups, 1992-93 to 1996-97*

Group		<u>California State University</u>					<u>University of California</u>				
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Asian	Number	4,416	5,430	6,212	6,562	6,741	1,721	2,287	2,610	2,767	2,863
	Percent	12.5	14.4	15.5	15.9	16.7	18.5	22.3	24.8	27.7	29.4
Black	Number	2,241	2,444	2,654	2,836	2,799	274	306	364	386	318
	Percent	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.9	6.9	2.9	3.0	3.5	3.9	3.3
Filipino	Number	1,204	1,432	1,739	1,840	1,867	229	291	306	310	333
	Percent	3.4	3.8	4.4	4.5	4.6	2.5	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.4
Latino	Number	5,780	6,784	7,437	8,334	8,661	1,205	1,335	1,452	1,503	1,430
	Percent	16.4	18.0	18.6	20.3	21.5	13.0	13.0	13.9	15.0	14.7
Native American	Number	500	554	539	641	604	121	107	129	137	124
	Percent	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.3
White	Number	21,061	21,087	21,402	20,931	19,623	5,751	5,927	5,641	4,888	4,664
	Percent	59.8	55.9	53.5	50.9	48.7	61.8	57.8	53.8	48.9	47.9
Total*		40,980	44,454	46,912	48,688	48,349	9,993	10,940	10,929	10,886	10,492

\*Total includes non-resident aliens and nonrespondents.

University. This was the major factor contributing to the decline in new community college transfer students at the State University. Admission rates were stable or improved for all groups, while enrollment rates increased for all groups, except Black students. At the University of California, multiple factors contributed to the reduction in community college transfer enrollments. The number of applicants decreased for all groups, except Asian students. The admission rate also decreased for all students, except Asian and White students; it dropped eight percentage points for Black applicants. In addition, the proportion of those community college transfer students admitted who actually enrolled at the University of California decreased for all groups, except Native American students.

### Differences among campuses

*California State University:* The pattern of enrollments across campuses that yielded the current-year decrease differed substantially between the two university systems. At the State University campuses, 10 of the 21 campuses that reported both current-year and previous-year transfer enrollments increased their number of new community college transfer students, while 11 campuses showed declines. The largest current-year increases occurred at the Fullerton, Los Angeles, Long Beach, and San Jose campuses, while the most notable decreases occurred at San Luis Obispo, Sacramento, Pomona, San Francisco, and Northridge campuses. The current year was the first in which the Maritime Academy reported community college transfer enrollments

*University of California:* While the annual number of community college transfer students at the University systemwide had been hovering around 10,900 students, the current-year decrease in these enrollments to 10,492 occurred as a result of declines in transfer students at all campuses. Rather sizable declines in numbers of transfer students occurred at the Los Angeles and San Diego campuses, while the decreases at Santa Cruz, Riverside, and Davis were very slight.

### DISPLAY 2 New Community College Transfers to the California State University, by Campus, 1994-95 to 1996-97

<u>Campus</u>	<u>1994-95</u>	<u>1995-96</u>	<u>1996-97</u>
CSU Bakersfield	763	789	833
CSU Chico	2,232	2,087	2,056
CSU Dominguez	1,321	1,408	1,470
CSU Fresno	2,163	2,128	2,116
CSU Fullerton	3,556	3,526	3,785
CSU Hayward	2,322	2,247	2,219
Humboldt State	1,184	1,074	978
CSU Long Beach	3,521	3,625	3,794
CSU Los Angeles	1,887	1,909	2,104
CSU Northridge	2,887	3,905	3,738
Cal Poly Pomona	1,978	2,022	1,826
CSU Sacramento	3,980	3,892	3,688
CSU San Bernardino	1,810	1,791	1,794
San Diego State	4,285	4,547	4,513
San Francisco State	3,971	4,053	3,863
San Jose State	3,882	3,781	3,916
Cal Poly San Luis	1,912	1,970	1,593
CSU San Marcos	994	1,170	1,249
Sonoma State	1,212	1,172	1,176
CSU Stanislaus	1,073	1,132	1,197
CSU Monterey Bay		462	406
Maritime Academy	--	--	35

### DISPLAY 3 New Community College Transfers to the University of California, by Campus, 1993-94 to 1996-97

<u>Campus</u>	<u>1994-95</u>	<u>1995-96</u>	<u>1996-97</u>
Berkeley	1,562	1,674	1,624
Davis	1,544	1,497	1,477
Irvine	975	996	934
Los Angeles	2,314	2,185	2,105
Riverside	717	868	843
San Diego	1,233	1,150	1,045
Santa Barbara	1,527	1,496	1,460
Santa Cruz	1,059	1,007	1,004